

President.—I am here in my capacity as President. Even then I may have to do something in my capacity as Diwan. Such things are unavoidable.

Mr. A. Sankara Puduval.—I think it is a delicate position indeed.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Suppose we are asking questions which refer to a particular department. My friend's point is that matters affecting the person of the Head of a particular Department may be better answered with greater propriety, if somebody answers for him. We have got various Heads of Departments, and various questions will have to be asked concerning the administrative orders they have passed. If we want to avoid this, we have to appoint Ministers.

President.—Do you support Mr. Puduval ?

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Certainly not, Sir.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Wariar.—Was not a Sub-Assistant Surgeon sent recently to Madras for X-ray training ?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Not officially.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Wariar.—Has anybody in the service gone to Madras for studying X-ray ?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—A Sub-Assistant Surgeon took 4 months' leave, and went to Madras, and utilised his leave in attending the Ophthalmic Hospital there, and went to the X-ray Department too. What he had learned, and what he had not learned I don't know.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Wariar.—May I then know whether any promise was held out to him that he would be entertained in the Department, when he returns after X-ray study ?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—No, he is already in the Department.

The appointment of Mr. M. C. Poullose in the Medical Department.

425. Mr. E. Ikkanda Wariar.—Will the Government be pleased to state :

(i) When was Mr. M. C. Poullose, L. M. P., appointed in the Medical Department ?

(ii) Is it a fact that he was appointed on the special recommendation of the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer ?

(iii) Was there any special necessity or any other special reason for the appointment ?

(iv) Was there any provision made for making this appointment in this year's budget ?

(v) Is it a fact that this Mr. Poullose was an assistant under the present Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer while he (the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer) was a private practitioner at Ernakulam?

(vi) (a) Is Mr. Poullose a Cochinite?

(b) If not, is not his appointment a direct violation of the spirit of the G. O. No. 4782 of 1097, dated 21st May 1923?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—(i) Mr. M. C. Poullose was first entertained as acting Sub-Assistant Surgeon on 14th Edavam 1099 and confirmed with effect from 7th Medam 1100.

(ii) Appointments in the Medical Department are usually made on the recommendation of the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer.

(iii) When the staff of Sub-Assistant Surgeons was strengthened for school inspection work, special duty, leave arrangements, etc., Mr. Poullose, who was originally entertained in a leave vacancy, was confirmed.

(iv) Yes.

(v) Yes.

(vi) (a) Yes.

(b) The question does not arise.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Wariar.—At the time of the appointment of Mr. Poullose, were there any applications registered from other persons qualified to occupy that post?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Possibly. I think so.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Wariar.—May I know the number of applications registered?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—I cannot say that now.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Wariar.—Was there any special reason for not giving posts to those registered applicants?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—I wanted a hand; I knew this man; I found him a competent and efficient hand; and I appointed him.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Wariar.—Did the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer make himself sure at the time of his appointment that he could not get better hands or equally good and able hands?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—I wanted only one hand; I got a good hand.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Wariar.—I want to know whether he wanted *this* hand or whether he wanted *a* hand—whether he wanted Mr. Poulse or he wanted a Sub-Assistant Surgeon?

President.—I suppose he wanted a competent hand.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Wariar.—Then, did the Officer make himself sure that he could not get a better hand or an equally competent hand at the time he made the appointment or made the recommendation to the Darbar?

President.—When a person is already known to be competent, is there any necessity to enquire whether there is any other competent person?

Mr. E. Ikkanda Wariar. Not more competent or competent alone?

President.—The question of comparative competency is rather a difficult question to solve.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—I have appointed another man at the same time. I wanted 2 competent men. They were both appointed on the same date.

President.—Who is the other man?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Mr. Krishnankutti Menon.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Wariar.—Of course, that is no answer to my question, and I am not concerned with that now. Did the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer make any enquiry about the competency of the registered applicants—applicants whose names had been registered at the time he made the appointment?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—No. I have not made any enquiries. I wanted a hand; I got one. I was perfectly satisfied that he was quite competent, and I have taken him—not one, two hands.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Wariar.—When were the Inspection staff, staff for inspection work, special duty and leave arrangements strengthened?

President.—At which particular time, can you say?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—At the same time as these were taken up—Mr. Poulse and Mr. Krishnankutti Menon.

President.—But the question is, when was that?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—About the same time—in 1923.

President.—His date of confirmation is given—7th Medam 1100. So that the strengthening of the staff also must have been at the same time.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Wariar.—May I know the strengthening of which staff—Inspection staff, special duty staff, or leave arrangement staff?

President.—Was there a general strengthening or strengthening for each of these specific works?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Yes. These appointments were made only when men in the permanent staff took leave, and later on, when the Assistant Surgeons deputed for inspection work were reverted to their permanent places, I wanted the staff to be strengthened.

President. It is in connection with the strengthening of the staff for inspection work.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—It was at that time that the strengthening took place.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Wariar.—May I take it that Mr. Poullose was appointed to strengthen the staff of the Inspection staff?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—He was appointed in an acting vacancy.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Wariar.—He was appointed to strengthen the leave arrangement staff.

President.—Is it your point that this strengthening was resorted to to make Mr. Poullose's appointment permanent?

Mr. E. Ikkanda Wariar.—I shall make my point clear. I cannot explain it now. Am I to take it that Dr. Poullose was appointed to strengthen the leave arrangement staff?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Yes. He was originally taken in a leave arrangement.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Wariar.—Was he ever sent on leave arrangements outside Ernakulam?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Yes.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Wariar.—How many times? May I know the period?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—I don't know the details without previous notice.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Wariar.—Are not persons who have not been confirmed sent on leave arrangement duty in preference to Dr. Poullose?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—That is entirely a departmental arrangement.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Wariar.—I am asking for information—not the justification.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—I should like to know what the question is.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Wariar.—Are not persons who were made permanent long ago sent out on leave arrangement duty?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Yes.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Wariar.—Any preference?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—No preference at all.

President.—They were sent out to fill up vacancies according to the exigencies of the service.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Absolutely, no preference.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Wariar.—When the service of Dr. Poullose was available, why were others sent out?

President.—That is only a discretionary matter. There is no hard and fast rule on the point. Any man may be sent out.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Wariar.—Was there any person acting in the department who was not confirmed at the time, when Mr. Poullose was confirmed?

President.—At the time of confirmation of Mr. Poullose, were there any other persons in the service who had acted for a longer time than Mr. Poullose?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—None.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Wariar.—Does the Government think that it is consistent with its dignity and prestige to entertain persons who are the near relations or who are indebted to Heads of Departments?

President.—But I had occasion to say, Mr. Wariar, that relationship is no disqualification for appointment.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Wariar.—But, I ask, is it consistent with the policy, dignity and prestige of the Government to give preference to relations (*Hear, Hear*) when there are other persons equally qualified and who have put in more service?

President.—It is stated in the Standing Orders that the permission of the superior should be obtained in appointing relations. He cannot himself appoint relations. Whenever a relation has to be appointed, he has to seek the permission and sanction of the superior authority. That shows relations can be appointed; but subject to the qualification.

A tank for the Kattur village.

426. മിസ്റ്റർ. എലപ്പാട്ട് കരയ നോമ.—(a) കാട്ടൂർ വില്ലേജ് നിവാസികൾക്ക് വേണ്ടക ലഭ്യമായിട്ടുള്ളതിന് യാതൊരു ജലാശയവും ഇല്ലാത്തതുകൊണ്ടാൽ അവിടെ ദിവാൻജി അവർകൾക്കും ചീഫ് കമ്മീഷണർ എലപ്പാട്ട് അവർകൾക്കും തുടരെ തുടരെയായി ബോധിപ്പിച്ചുകൊണ്ടിരുന്ന ഹർജികളുടെ ഫലമായി വില്ലേജ് സർവ്വേ 370-ൽ പെട്ടുകിടക്കുന്നതായ ഒരു പുറമ്പേരക്കുളം ചേർത്തു് വെട്ടുപാക്കി കോട്ടക്കുവൻ ഗവണ്മെന്റിന്മീതെ ഉത്തരവായതു് ഏതുകല്പനയിലാണ്?

(b) അനുവദിച്ചതിന് ശേഷം ആ പണി ഇതുവരെയും നടത്തിക്കൊടുക്കുവാൻ സാധിക്കാതെ വന്നതിന്റേ കാരണമെന്താണ്?

(c) വേർതാക്കിയതു് വെള്ളംകിട്ടാതെ കയ്യെപ്പട്ടു വലയുന്ന ടി വില്ലേജ് നിവാസികളുടെ സങ്കടനിവൃത്തിക്കായി ഗവണ്മെന്റിന്മീതെ അനുവദിച്ചുകിടക്കുന്നതായ ടി പൂമ്പേരക്കുളം ഇനിയെങ്കിലും ചേർത്തു് വെട്ടുപാക്കിക്കൊടുക്കുന്നതിലേക്ക് ഗവണ്മെന്റ് മേവായി മനസ്സുവെക്കുമോ?

ദിവാൻ ബഹദൂർ ഡാക്ടർ വി. വർഗ്ഗീസ്.—(a) 1100-മാണ്ടിൽ.

(b) അക്കാലത്തിൽ ഉതിലും അടിയന്തിരമായ പണികൾ നടത്തേണ്ടതുണ്ടായിരുന്നതുകൊണ്ടു പ്രസ്തുത കളരിയിന്റെ പണിക്കുവേണ്ടി വരുന്ന സംഖ്യ 1100-ലെ ബഡ്ജറ്റിൽ ഇല്ലാതിരുന്നതിനാലും പണി നടത്തുവാൻ സാധിച്ചില്ല.

(c) ഗവണ്മെന്റ് ഇക്കാര്യത്തിൽ കഴിയുന്നതും ശ്രദ്ധവയ്ക്കുന്നതാണ്.

A Town Improvement Committee for Trippunittura.

427. **Mr. K. S. Rama Ayyar.**—Will the Government be pleased to constitute a Town Improvement Committee for Trippunittura, like the one at Kunnampulam, in view of the growing importance of the place?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Government do not consider it necessary since improvements are now being carried out satisfactorily by the Sanitary Department.

Objections to the location of the Leper Asylum at Anappara.

428. **Mr. A. B. Salem.**—(a) Will the Government be pleased to inform whether they have received any objections